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PARIS PASS USCINCEUR THURSTON WEST AND LIVE OAK

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Following are highlights Ambassadorial Group meeting which discussed Berlin contingency planning July 10:

1. NATO Consultation:

Murphy informed British and French Ambassadors US planning tell General Norstad (in reply to ALA 654): (a) US agrees Norstad should be authorized utilize SHAPE HQ and NATO communications facilities if necessary for Live Oak purposes, (b) US believes NAC should be informed or consulted before any military action, including probe of Soviet intentions, and (c) Department will consult with British and French to see NAC informed or consulted at appropriate time.

Report to NATO on contingency planning updating report made April 1 being drafted for possible delivery July 16, but in absence British concurrence tripartite agreement not yet reached such report should be made. (Such report if made would be given Fed Rep previous day in Bonn.)

2. Identification and Checkpoint Procedures: Murphy confirmed US

approval

Drafted by:

EUR:GER:GPA:TDMCK:ernan:caw 7-10-59

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

Clearances:

GER - Mr. Hillenbrand
GER - Mr. Murphy

GER - Mr. Thompson
GER - Mr. James

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[approval of recommendations contained Bonn's despatch No. 1866 (BERCON-TRI D-2). Alphand expected French Government will approve but it has not yet done so. Caccia reverted to former British position that existing procedures should be maintained in any case and indicated British still troubled at idea of changing procedures in non-agency situation. 662.72]

3. Measures to Assure Flight Safety: Murphy informed British and French re Department's ~~CG~~ to Bonn, substance of which circulated as BERCON-TRI D-3. Alphand reiterated French willingness accept communication flight information to East Germans by radio, but expressed doubts re advisability communication by teletype.

4. Counter-Harassment: British made more detailed reply (being circulated as BERCON-TRI D-4) to US May 15 paper on Counter-Harassment of Soviet Bloc Transportation. British as far as concerned believe measures proposed might lose Allies more ~~the~~ public opinion than they would gain by way of embarrassing Soviets. Believe Western intentions will best be demonstrated, when necessary, by overt military and civil preparations of non-provocative character rather than by policy of tit-for-tat in which other side retains initiative and tactical advantage.

5. United Nations Action: Murphy pressed Alphand for French views on parts of our May 25 paper on Possible Reference of Berlin Question to UN which deal with contingencies after access situation changed. Alphand did not yet have French Government views but promised to seek them.

6. Additional Military Preparatory Measures: Murphy pointed out that military preparatory measures which have already been taken appear to have been without effect on]

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on Soviets and that it seems doubtful, in view of prolongation of Geneva discussions, that they are adequate to impress Soviets of our readiness maintain our position in Berlin at risk of war. In order fortify our position in Geneva discussions and induce Soviets adopt more conciliatory attitude, US believes it necessary consider possibility taking additional military preparatory measures. Since measures would be implemented while negotiations with Soviets continuing, we believe some action urgent. We have no particular measures to suggest, but believe we might consider advisability at this time some of QUOTE more elaborate UNQUOTE measures Live Oak is planning for implementation after Soviet turnover of checkpoints to GDR. We might have to consider inclusion measures which could cause a degree of public uneasiness.

British and French Ambassadors undertook obtain their Governments' views.

7. Live Oak Planning: Murphy pointed out Live Oak still has not submitted its planning recommendations for (1) more elaborate military measures to be implemented later and (2) restoration of freedom of passage. He stressed urgency of completing this planning and urged British and French Ambassadors remind their Governments of importance of having Live Oak submit planning to Norstad in order that it may be forwarded for Government consideration at earliest practicable date. British and French Ambassadors appeared agree this planning unduly delayed and undertook pass on Murphy's comments.

FYI Review of contingency planning through July 3 has been circulated for US use only as BERCON D-2a.

Hester Dillon
(Bk) Dillon

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